

Serial Number: 09/423,981
Response to Office Action 2/26/03
Amendment After Final Dated 7/28/03

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A flame-sprayed aluminum-alloy, containing from 12 to 60% by weight of Si, the balance being essentially Al, the aluminum-alloy flame-sprayed by means of high velocity oxy-fuel flame-spraying method (HVOF) onto a substrate roughened by shot blasting, and includes granular Si particles dispersed in the matrix of the aluminum alloy, the granular Si particles having a short-diameter/long diameter ratio of 1/3 or more and ~~some of the~~ including granular Si particles having ~~an average a~~ particle size greater than 10 μm , and further said flame-sprayed aluminum alloy has adhesive strength of film higher than that of a flame-sprayed Ni film, as measured by a shear-fracture testing method.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): A flame-sprayed aluminum-alloy containing from 12 to 60% by weight of Si, from 0.1 to 30% by weight of Sn, the balance being essentially Al, the aluminum-alloy flame-sprayed by means of high velocity oxy-fuel flame-spraying method (HVOF) on a substrate roughened by shot blasting, and includes granular Si particles and Sn dispersed in the matrix of the aluminum alloy, the granular Si particles having a short-diameter/long diameter ratio of 1/3 or more and ~~some of the~~ including granular Si particles having ~~an average a~~ particle size greater

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than 10 μm , and further said flame-sprayed aluminum alloy has adhesive strength of film higher than that of a flame-sprayed Ni film, as measured by a shear-fracture testing method.

Claim 3 (original): A flame-sprayed aluminum alloy according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said alloy contains at least one element of the group consisting of: 7.0% by weight or less of Cu; 5.0% by weight or less of Mg; 1.5% by weight or less of Mn; 1.5% by weight or less of Fe; and 8.0% by weight or less of Ni.

Claim 4 (original): A flame-sprayed aluminum alloy according to any one of claims 1 through 3, wherein the average particle diameter of said granular Si is 50 μm or less.

Claim 6 (Previously amended): A flame-sprayed aluminum-alloy according to claim 5, wherein a coating containing a material selected from the group consisting of Sn, Pb-Sn and MoS₂-graphite is applied on said flame-sprayed aluminum alloy.